



FORAGE IMPROVEMENT AND UTILIZATION INVESTMENT AREA

(Approved March 16, 2001)

(Updated March 20, 2009)

This document provides eligible investments and is considered to be minimum standards by which an investment area is to be implemented.

Counties shall place a dollar cap on the maximum cost-share per producer of up to \$7,500 for the 12-month period from the execution date of the legal agreement between the administrator and the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

Funded participants shall adhere to all local, state, and federal rules and regulations.

Questions concerning these guidelines should be directed to the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 564-4627. Application for funds must be directed through the local County Agricultural Development Council(s).

I. Eligible Cost-share Items

A. Forage/Pasture Development

Only certified, PVP or proprietary forage varieties will be eligible for cost share. In addition, these varieties should have documented performance in university trials such as those conducted by the UK College of Agriculture. Other varieties will be considered with documentation of performance upon written request to UK through the County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Prerequisites

- **A soil test**, taken within the last 12 months, must be conducted through UK or other certified laboratory, with fertilizer and lime applications based on UK or other certified laboratory recommendations.
- Only Certified or Plant Variety Protected or Proprietary varieties will be acceptable (see list of approved varieties attached).
- The variety must be specified on the receipt.
- **Clover:** If soil pH is below 5.0, then clover seeding should be delayed by 6 months after lime application. **Alfalfa:** If soil pH is below 5.5, then seeding must be delayed by one year after limestone application.
- Proof of purchase of recommended soil amendments must accompany the seed purchase receipt for reimbursement.
- Cost-share is on seed, limestone, and soil amendments only, based on receipts from vendors.

Cost-share Items

1. **Seed:** Only varieties specified in the Seed List (Appendix A) are eligible for cost-share.
 - a. **Clover – red and white**
 - b. **Alfalfa**

c. Summer Perennial Forages

- i. Bermuda grass
- ii. Big Bluestem
- iii. Eastern Gamma Grass
- iv. Caucasian Bluestem

d. Cool Season Forages

- i. Endophyte-free Fescue
- ii. Kentucky Bluegrass
- iii. Novel Endophyte Fescue
- iv. Orchardgrass
- v. Timothy
- vi. Festulolium

e. Other Crop

- i. Corn (less than 10 acres)
- ii. Wheat
- iii. Rye
- iv. Ryegrass
- v. Oats
- vi. Soybean (forage beans only)
- vii. Brassicas (i.e. turnips)

2. **Limestone** based on a soil test taken within the past 12 months.
3. **Soil Amendments** (P, K or other approved soil amendments, including foliar feed)
4. **Inoculants**
5. **Herbicides**
6. **Animal waste handling and distribution equipment**

B. Pasture / Grain Improvement

Prerequisites:

- **A soil test**, taken within the last 12 months, must be conducted through UK or other certified laboratory, with fertilizer and lime applications based on UK or other certified laboratory recommendations.
- Cost-share is on limestone and soil amendments only, based on receipts from vendors.

COST SHARE ITEMS

1. **Limestone** based on a soil test taken within the past 12 months.
2. **Soil amendments** (P,K or other approved soil amendments, including foliar feed)
3. **Specialized spraying equipment** (not self-propelled)
4. **Herbicides**

C. Filter Fabric Pads for Heavy Use Areas

Prerequisites:

- Minimum average herd size of 10 animals must be demonstrated over the previous year.

COST SHARE ITEMS:

Material costs associated with development of filter fabric pads for improved surface drainage under bales and in heavy use areas.

D. Fence and Water**Prerequisites:**

- Minimum average herd size of 10 animals must be demonstrated over the previous year.
- The KADB will only share cost on the purchase of the necessary fencing and water supplies to create the grazing system.
- A **minimum** of **three** paddocks must be developed and managed according to an approved grazing rotation plan.

COST SHARE ITEMS:

1. **Subdivision fence, posts, and related materials** such as fence chargers, ground rods, voltmeters etc., related to the establishment of rotational grazing systems.

Plank fences will not be considered.

2. **Materials related to development of a distributed water system.** This list could include tanks, pipe, filter fabric plus gravel (for mud control), trenching costs (documented by receipts). Seasonal water systems, using movable pipe (above ground, burst proof pipe) and tanks, are acceptable and could be used as a way to encourage greater producer participation for this practice.
3. **Water hook-up to city/county water lines for farm usage including water meters.**

E. Subsurface Drainage (Tiling)**Prerequisites:**

- Producer must attend an educational session and provide a budget, prior to receiving cost-share funds.

Material costs necessary for the installation of subsurface drainage systems for improved soil drainage.

F. Seeding: Custom Services & Rental of Equipment**Prerequisites:**

- For custom seeding services only, reimbursement will not exceed 50% of the cost of such services up to \$6 maximum per acre.
- For rental of seeding equipment, reimbursement will not exceed 50% of the rental cost of said equipment.

- Only labor provided through a custom seeding service is eligible for reimbursement, labor for using rental equipment is not reimbursable.
1. **Custom seeding services provided** by a third party are also eligible for reimbursement on a cost-share basis.
 2. **Rental no-till drill or pasture renovator** is eligible for reimbursement on a cost-share basis.

APENDIX A: Seed Varieties

Visit http://agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/documents/forage_seedlist.pdf for the most up-to-date list of seed varieties eligible for use with this program.